

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 2123

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, ID
SUBJECT: LATEST PLANS FOR MPR GENERAL SESSION

REF: JAKARTA 1885 (DTG 100820Z FEB 78)

1. SUMMARY: PARLIAMENT (DPR)/PEOPLE'S CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY (MPR) CHAIRMAN ADAM MALIK HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE MPR GENERAL SESSION WILL BEGIN MARCH 11 AND CONCLUDE WITH THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT MARCH 23. HE NOTED FOUR UNRESOLVED ISSUES FACING THE MPR: MYSTICISM, GUIDE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PANCASILA, THE KNPI YOUTH GROUP, AND THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. LATE BUT UNCONFIRMED REPORTS HAVE SULTAN HAMENGKUBUWONO IX REFUSING TO CONTINUE AS VICE PRESIDENT WHICH WOULD CAUSE HAVOC WITH ELECTION PLANS. END SUMMARY.

2. (DPR/MPR CHAIRMAN ADAM MALIK TOLD REPORTERS FEBRUARY
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15 THAT PREPARATIONS HAD BEEN COMPLETED FOR THE GENERAL SESSION OF THE MPR, BEGINNING MARCH 11 WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S SPEECH ACCOUNTING FOR HIS LAST ADMINISTRATION AND CONCLUDING MARCH 23 WITH THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT. THE PRESIDENT WILL BE NOMINATED MARCH 21 AND ELECTED MARCH 22. MALIK PINPOINTED THE FOUR ISSUES NOT YET RESOLVED BY THE MPR WORKING

(STEERING) COMMITTEE: (1) WHETHER THE MPR SHOULD ACCEPT THE GOVERNMENT'S DRAFT PRESCRIPTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PANCASILA (COMMONLY CALLED P4); (2) WHETHER THE CONCEPT OF JAVANESE MYSTICISM (KEPERCAYAAN) SHOULD RECEIVE PROMINENT MENTION IN THE GUIDELINES FOR STATE POLICY (GBHN) AND IN P4; (3) HOW THE PRESIDENT IS TO BE ELECTED; AND (4) WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT-FOUNDED INDONESIAN NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE (KNPI) SHOULD BE MENTIONED IN THE GBHN.

3. WHILE WE HAVE HAD RELIABLE REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO HAS SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING THE RELUCTANT SULTAN HAMENGKUBUWONO IX TO ACCEPT RENOMINATION FOR VICE PRESIDENT, THE SULTAN'S BROTHER PRINCE BINTOROTOLD THE AMBASSADOR FEBRUARY 15 THAT THE SULTAN WAS DETERMINED NOT TO SERVE AGAIN. ALTHOUGH BINTORO DID NOT GIVE REASONS FOR THIS DECISION, HE INDICATED HIS BROTHER HAD BEEN UNHAPPY WITH PRESIDENT'S ORDERING GOVERNMENT TROOPS TO PREVENT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FROM MAKING A SCHEDULED CALL ON THE VICE PRESIDENT JANUARY 21. (COMMENT: A REFUSAL BY THE SULTAN TO ACCEPT NOMINATION WOULD, OF COURSE, CAUSE SUHARTO SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT AT THIS LATE DATE AND INITIATE A FRANTIC SEARCH FOR A REPLACEMENT. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THIS SEARCH HAS NOT BEGUN, AND WE AWAIT CONFIRMATION OF SULTAN'S ULTIMATE INTENTIONS.)
MASTERS

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